



THE

"ROAD RUNNER"

A WSACE and CRAB Newsletter

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July 2002 Presidential Proclamation by Tim Fife, P.E.

I am honored to serve as WSACE's esteemed President. I must admit, judging from Jim Whitbread's behavior at the Summer Conference, I feel a little like Rodney Dangerfield. I just don't get any respect. However, considering the source, I would not want it any other way.

For those of you that weren't there, it was an excellent conference with some excellent technical sessions. One of our areas of concern was the attendance. I will be contacting those that did not make it to the conference in the near future to discuss this issue.

We are looking into forming a sub-committee to address information management software, a need that many of us may be experiencing. This would include accounting software, GIS, CRIS, and other information needs. If nothing else, we should attempt to make all of our information systems compatible. Jerry Hauth has volunteered to poll everyone about what we are currently using and what direction we think we want to head. If enough of us want the same things, it would benefit us to do it as a group. If you are interested in participating on the committee, let me know.

I look forward to serving you in the coming year.
Thanks!

the RAP/CAPP Program forms and are working on the regional rating sheets. To date, the Southwest Region is finished and work is

New Field Rappers

Project visual ratings for new RAP submittals have been completed by a record three CRAB staff. The tallies of these ratings have been mailed out to each county, and now it is up to them to add descriptions of the remaining conditions of their RAP proposals. These of course include: volume, safety (accident history), measured structural capacity in the SW and NW regions, geometry (horizontal and vertical alignments and grades) and in some regions, local significance. These varying criteria make for an interesting list of projects that continue to reflect the current needs for reconstruction funding.

Balancing the RAP Balance

The Grant Programs web page at CRAB.wa.gov has some new forms. These include a more comprehensive prospectus sheet, increase request, change in scope, and waiver of payback of RATA funds forms. The new prospectus form will ensure the new submittals are more consistent and reflective of the ranking on the regional priority array.

A number of the regions have met this spring and discussed the benefits of a 3R process in their rating methods. Three regions are looking into ways to add this feature.

Last projects of this biennium are funded:

The CRABoard allocated the last of estimated revenue to projects on the current arrays. This means funding is set and any projects that are partially funded will move to the top of next biennium's array. \$ 13.5 million will be allocated to complete funding of these projects.

Electronic Forms will soon be available on the CRAB Website

In Keeping with our tradition of being out on the (b)leading edge of technology, CRAB staff has begun the process of making electronic forms available on-line. We have started with

progressing nicely on the North East Region rating sheets. All of the forms are currently being created as Adobe PDF files. The forms will do all the necessary calculations as well as error trapping to make sure all elements of the required fields are appropriately filled in.

As a part of this effort, CRAB will be purchasing licenses of the Adobe Approval software to distribute to all interested Counties to fully realize the potential of the electronic forms. This will allow you to fill out the forms on-line as well as to save copies and to e-mail the finished form back to CRAB and to eventually do digital signatures.

It is our hope that in the not too distant future we will be able to implement digital signature authority for those wishing to sign forms electronically. The Acrobat Approval software is a necessary element of that process, also.

To see what is currently available, visit our web site at:

<http://www.crab.wa.gov/grants/formsnew.asp>, and select "On-Line Forms". Be sure to read the "Details" page to get all the information about how the digital forms work.

WSDOT Grant Programs Available

WSDOT administers many transportation related grants that are available to agencies. For the first time these grants have been consolidated to make it easier for agencies to see what's available and apply for grants.

Depending upon the type of grant, eligible agencies include: cities, counties, port districts, tribal governments, transit agencies, school districts, economic development councils, rail district, private railroads, public and private employers, non-profit and private for profit transportation agencies, regional and state governments, including WSDOT.

A brochure describing the grant programs was mailed to agencies on June 14, and the

grant programs can be accessed on WSDOT Grants Webpage at

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/biz/grants>

Maintenance Management Program Report

During the past few months, maintenance data entry and reporting procedures have been discussed with various counties. As all counties collect maintenance data through the completion (daily) of time cards, time sheets, etc., there are many similarities among the counties. Also, as this data is provided from the individual maintenance workers and field supervisors, their role in data collection efforts is very important. A basic concept of maintenance management is that work programs are broken down by, and resources allocated to, individual field units in accordance with the need to accomplish the work. Work accomplishment is then reported.

The basis for maintenance data collection and subsequent preparation of reports are important elements of a functioning maintenance management system and will be addressed as an on-going aspect of CRAB's maintenance management program. Regardless of the way in which the data is processed, the concepts of a maintenance management system remain the same. The basic components of maintenance management systems developed for road maintenance organizations include:

- The development of performance standards for principal maintenance activities that describe the procedures to be followed, the labor, equipment and materials to be used and the production and results to be achieved from such maintenance activities.
- The determination of work loads based upon the various elements of the roadway inventory and the evaluation of external influences (weather, traffic, etc.) acting upon these elements which create a need for maintenance.
- The budgeting (dollars) for resources (labor, equipment, materials) to meet the predicted workload in terms of specific programs (activities, quantities, locations) to be achieved.
- The scheduling of activities within the budgeted program to utilize resources in an efficient manner to keep the roadway

system operating in a safe, convenient manner.

- The establishment of a management information system which provides the basic data required by operating managers for routine decisions and the special reports required by management for control and improvement of the program.

Further details of the Maintenance Management Program can be found on the CRAB website (www.crab.wa.gov).

Employment Opportunities

Cowlitz County – Engineering Tech III

Cowlitz County is accepting applications for the position of Engineer III. This is an exempt professional civil engineering position that provides a broad range of engineering and planning services to all divisions of Public Works (road engineering & maintenance, stormwater, water, sewer, diking, solid waste, parks). Administers projects; collaborates with programmatic and comprehensive planning; reviews development plans; prepares reports and makes presentations; and supervises other assigned engineering and technical staff. Requirements:

1. Bachelor's degree with major course work in civil engineering or a related field, and four (4) years of broad-based experience in civil engineering that would ensure the knowledge required for the duties of the job, Or, any combination of education, training, and experience that would ensure successful performance.
2. Possess and maintain a Professional Engineer License from the state of Washington or a state having reciprocity with Washington, and obtain reciprocity licensing within one year of employment.
3. Possess and maintain a valid unrestricted driver's license (except for vision).

Salary: \$4,725 - \$4,988 - \$5,250 per month, depending upon experience and qualifications.

Application and job description can be obtained by visiting Administrative Services at 207 Fourth Ave., North, Kelso, WA; by calling (360) 577-3065 or TDD (360) 577-3061; or by visiting our website:

www.co.cowlitz.wa.us. Applications must be

returned to Administrative Services. This position will remain open until filled. EOE.

Dates to Remember

July 2002

11-12	CRAB Board Olympia
12-16	NACo Annual Conference, New Orleans
17-18	Transportation Commission – Olympia
19	FMSIB – Port of Tacoma
24	CPO – Leadership Skills in Response to Current Issues, Spokane
25-26	TIB - Aberdeen

August 2002

14-15	Transportation Commission – Olympia
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September 2002

18-19	Transportation Commission – Olympia
19	FMSIB - Spokane
25-26	Road Design Conference
26-27	TIB - Wenatchee
30 – Oct 4	WACO/WSAC Annual Conference WestCoast Wenatchee Hotel, Wenatchee

October 2002

1	WSACE Executive Board Wenatchee
10-11	CRABoard Meeting - Olympia
16-17	Transportation Commission – Olympia

**** If you would like to be removed from the Road Runner Newsletter mailing list, please contact Karen Pendleton. She can be reached at: Phone – 360.753-5989; e-mail Karen@crab.wa.gov; fax – 360.586.0386.**